

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Annual Food Drive
Nov. 2 – Dec. 16, 2009

To help the city's many families still feeling the impacts of the national recession, the Bellevue Parks & Community Services Department is launching a fall food drive, Nov. 2 through Dec. 16.

Canned goods and other non-perishable food will be collected at the following sites:

- Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Ave. NE
- Crossroads Mini City Hall, 15600 NE Eighth St.
- Bellevue Aquatic Center, 601 143rd Ave. NE
- Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St.
- Bellevue Golf Course, 5450 140th Ave. NE
- Crossroads Community Center, 16000 NE 10th St.
- Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road.
- Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Pl. SE
- North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Ave. NE
- Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th St.
- Parks Resource Management, 16023 NE Eighth St.
- Robinswood Tennis Center, 2400 151st Pl. SE
- South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bellevue's unemployment rate has climbed from 4 percent to 7.2 percent over the last year, and more than 20 percent of children in the Bellevue School District now qualify for meal assistance.

Bellevue human service providers have experienced dramatic increases in requests for food assistance. Previous food drives this year sponsored by Bellevue neighborhoods and Eastside cities have been a big help, but the demand is still high.

"We can't thank friends and neighbors in our community enough for their generosity," said Denise Stephens, a spokeswoman with Hopelink, which provides food and other assistance on the Eastside. "Every food donation means Hopelink can help one more family put food on the table."

Donated food will be sorted and distributed by volunteers at the Crossroads Community Center. For more information, call 425-452-4106.

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